

Submission
No 147

**INQUIRY INTO EXHIBITION OF EXOTIC ANIMALS IN
CIRCUSES AND EXHIBITION OF CETACEANS IN NEW
SOUTH WALES**

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The use of animals for entertainment is not acceptable in a civilised society. In future years, humans will look back on this behaviour as a sad indicator of the cruelty and immaturity of our times. On a recent trip to Kyoto, I visited a beautiful area called Arashiyama and was walking through the town and happened to look up into the second story of a building only to see an enormous owl looking back at me. I stood on the pavement, transfixed. The live owl was part of a cafe concept in which people could have their coffee with live birds. The beautiful owl stood over a metre high – this gorgeous, strong bird was chained to the branch on which it sat. Horrified, I reflected upon what I saw as the cruelty of the people in that town, only to then reflect on the cruelty towards animals in my own country Australia. We must be better than this.